

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 110250

FOLLOWING SENT SECSTATE WASHDC FROM DAKAR 10 MAY 75:

QUOTE C O N F I D E N T I A L DAKAR 2716

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, SG, US, UNGA, EGEN, ETRD

SUBJ: PRESIDENT SENGHOR'S VISIT TO US: CONSULTATIONS OF
WITH ACCOMPANYING MINISTER OF STATE FOR FINANCE ON
DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION.

REF: A. DAKAR 2476; B. DAKAR 2712 C. STATE 75525

SUMMARY: VISIT OF PRESIDENT SENGHOR TO WASHINGTON PROVIDES
EXCELLENT OPPORTUNITY FOR US TO CONSULT WITH SENEGALESE
MINISTERS, PARTICULARLY MINISTER OF STATE FOR FINANCE BABACAR
BA, WHO HAS IMPORTANT WEIGHT IN FORMULATION LDC POLICIES ON
DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION. END SUMMARY.

1. PRESIDENT SENGHOR WILL BE ACCOMPANIED ON HIS VISIT TO
UNITED STATES MAY 21 TO 27 BY FOREIGN MINISTER ASSANE SECK
AND MINISTER OF STATE FOR FINANCE BABACAR BA. BA WAS RECENTLY
ELECTED TO POSITION OF CHAIRMAN OF BOARD OF GOVERNORS OF
AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK AND AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT FUND. HE WAS
PRESIDENT OF GROUP OF MINISTERS OF ACP COUNTRIES WHICH NEGOTIATED
AGREEMENT WITH EEC LAST YEAR. HE HAS BEEN AN INFLUENTIAL PARTI-
CIPANT IN NON-ALIGNED MEETINGS IN RECENT YEARS--SENEGAL IS
CONFIDENTIAL

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MEMBER OF NON-ALIGNED COORDINATING COMMITTEE--AND IN
COMMODITIES CONFERENCE HELD IN DAKAR THIS FEBRUARY. HE, NOT
FOREIGN MINISTER SECK, IS SPOKESMAN FOR SENEGAL ON
INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC POLICY. BY VIRTUE OF POSITIONS

HE HAS HELD AND HIS FORCEFUL CHARACTER, BA HAS HELPED SENEGAL TO HAVE MORE INFLUENCE IN LDC COUNCILS THAN WOULD OTHERWISE BE ACCORDED A COUNTRY OF ITS SIZE.

2. EMBASSY BELIEVES IT WOULD BE VALUABLE IN TERMS OF OUR BILATERAL RELATIONS WITH SENEGAL AND OUR MULTILATERAL RELATIONS WITH LDCS IF WE COULD ARRANGE FOR MINISTER BA TO CONSULT WITH HIGH US OFFICIALS ON INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC ISSUES. SENEGAL'S PUBLIC POSITION, REPEATED TO US IN PRIVATE BY PRESIDENT SENGHOR AND FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIALS, IS THAT SENEGAL PREFERS COOPERATION NOT CONFRONTATION BETWEEN LDCS AND DCs IN EVOLVING A NEW ECONOMIC STRUCTURE FOR INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC RELATIONS. CONSULTATION WITH BA ON ECONOMIC ISSUES WOULD BE LIKELY TO INCREASE UNDERSTANDING OF OUR POSITION AND STRENGTHEN SENEGAL'S DESIRE FOR COOPERATION WITH US. IT COULD HELP ENCOURAGE SENEGAL TO PLAY MODERATING ROLE WITHIN OAU AND LDC COUNCILS ON THESE ISSUES.

3. WE HOPE THAT DURING BA'S STAY IN WASHINGTON, DEPT MIGHT ARRANGE MEETINGS FOR HIM WITH SECRETARY OF TREASURY SIMON OR IF LATTER NOT IN TOWN, WITH APPROPRIATELY HIGH-RANKING TREASURY OFFICIAL - ALSO SECRETARY OF STATE FOR ECONOMIC AFFAIRS ROBINSON, AND ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE FOR ECONOMIC AND BUSINESS AFFAIRS ENDERS.

4. SPECIFIC ISSUES THAT DEPARTMENT MIGHT DISCUSS WITH BA WILL DEPEND IN LARGE MEASURE ON HOW FAR DEPARTMENT AND INTERESTED US AGENCIES HAVE PROCEEDED WITH RESPECT TO REVIEW MENTIONED STATE 75525 OF US INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC POLICIES. AS NOTED REFTEL A, WE BELIEVE US OFFICIALS SHOULD INDICATE US COOPERATIVE ATTITUDE ON NEGOTIATIONS WITH LDCS TO PRESIDENT SENGHOR. THEY MIGHT MAKE SIMILAR POINT WITH BA. THEY MIGHT ALSO STRESS SINCERE EFFORT MADE BY USG TO ACCOMMODATE OPEC/LDC VIEWS AT CONSUMER/PRODUCER PREPARATORY MEETING IN PARIS APRIL 4-5. PRESENT SENEGALESE VIEWS ON WHAT TOOK PLACE AT THAT CONFIDENTIAL

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CONFERENCE PROBABLY ARE INFLUENCED BY WHAT THEY HAVE BEEN TOLD BY THEIR ALGERIAN AND FRENCH FRIENDS. WE BELIEVE IT WOULD BE WORTHWHILE TO CORRECT ANY DISTORTIONS AND MISCONCEPTION WHICH MAY HAVE RESULTED. ALSO WE COULD TAKE OPPORTUNITY TO CLARIFY REASONS WE BELIEVE ENERGY QUESTIONS MUST HAVE SPECIAL PRIORITY.

5. TO EXTENT POSSIBLE WE MIGHT ALSO WISH TO SHARE WITH BA OUR GENERAL THINKING ON UPCOMING 30TH UNGA AND STRESS NEED TO AVOID CONFRONTATION IN UN. WE MIGHT INDICATE WHAT WE BELIEVE TO BE PROPER FORUMS FOR LDC-DC DISCUSSIONS OR VARIOUS INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC DEMANDS BEING PUT FORTH BY LDCS AND EMPHASIZE NEED TO TACKLE ONLY A MANAGEABLE

NUMBER OF ECONOMIC ISSUES IN EACH FOUUM
INSTEAD OF CLUTTERING ONE MEETING AFTER ANOTHER WITH
DEMAND FOR LARGE SCALE REVOLUTIONARY CHANGES WHICH CANNOT
BE NEGOTIATED WHOLESALE. WE MIGHT ALSO GIVE INDICATION
OF OUR THINKING ON SPECIFIC ITEMS OF CONCERN TO LDCS AS
SET FORTH IN STATE 75525 INCLUDING INDEXATION, ASSURED
MARKETS, COMMODITY AGREEMENTS, ENHANCED LDC ROLE IN
ECONOMIC DECISION MAKING IN KEY ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL
INSTITUTIONS, AND STRUCTURAL CHANGE IN UN.

6. BA HAS WIDE EXPERIENCE IN DEALING WITH EUROPEAN AND
THIRD WORLD FINANCE MINISTERS, AND WILL BE SENSITIVE TO LEVEL
AT WHICH TALKS IN US ARE PROPOSED.

7. REFTTEL B WHICH PROVIDES ANALYSIS AND SUGGESTIONS FOR
TARGETING OUR FUTURE EFFORTS WITH SENEGAL IN CONJUNCTION
WITH FORTHCOMING 30TH UNGA MIGHT PROVIDE USEFUL BACKGROUND
WITH REGARD SENEGALESE ATTITUDES ON ECONOMIC ISSUES WHICH
WOULD BE HELPFUL IN PREPARING FOR ANY MEETINGS WITH
BABACAR BA. AGGREY UNQUOTE INGERSOLL

CONFIDENTIAL

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